Transcript for the short animated film “Reflection”

Audio description:

The audio soundtrack for this video contains an instrumental musical score. This video contains no spoken words and has no song lyrics.

This video has no spoken dialogue of any kind or any additional sound effects.

The end credits in this video are accompanied by an additional instrumental musical score, which contains no spoken words, additional sound effects, or song lyrics.

Visual description:

All images and visuals in this video are created as hand drawn animation.

Full transcription of video with time stamp guides:

From 00:00 - 00:03 - Video begins with a squirrel moving around in a tall patch of grass in a field

From 00:03 - 00:08 - Squirrel stands on hind feet and looks up before leaping and turning to run away from camera.

From 00:09 - 00:29 - Video shows the camera going quickly forward through the grass field as it would appear from the the point of view of the squirrel running.

From 00:14 - 00:20 - The written text title for the video appears as the word, “Reflection” while the video behind the text continues to show the camera moving through the grass, beginning to turn to the right.

At 00:21 - A tree appears in the view of the camera and the camera moves toward the tree.

At 00:29 - The camera reaches the base of the tree.

From 00:30 - 00:31 - the camera moves up the trunk of the tree in the point of view of the squirrel climbing the tree.

At 00:32 - the camera shifts away from the point of view of the squirrel and the squirrel comes back into view of the scene.

From 00:32 - 00:34 - The squirrel is climbing the tree.

From 00:35 - 00:39 - The scene changes to a tree branch with two autumn leaves blowing in the wind

From 00:40 - 00:48 - The scene with the leaves fades into a new scene, where the leaves are replaced by two fish swimming around in circles with each other in the blue water of a lake. The camera, which views the fish from above, follows the fish down as they circle deeper into the water. As they do, the water gets darker and other fish can be seen swimming by as well as bubbles. The two fish reach the depth where the sandy bottom of the lake can now be seen.

From 00:49 - 00:55 - The scene changes to a different view of the two fish. The camera now sees the fish at a distance from a straight on front view rather than from above. The scene shows the lake floor as the fish approach the bottom. There are large round gray rocks and green plants in the water.

From 00:55 - 01:08 - The scene with the fish fades into the next scene, showing an autumnal forest at night with a blue color to the tree trunks and atmosphere around the forest along with vibrant colors of orange, yellow and red seen in the fall leaves. Two deer appear from opposite sides and they bound toward each other, cross paths, and come back to meet together in the middle of the screen, where they stop and nuzzle closer.

From 01:08 - 01:18 - The scene changes to a background showing a close up of a pile of autumn leaves in orange, red, brown, and yellow. Two dancing leaves appear. They have the suggestion of human forms and lines that appear within the lines of the leaves themselves. As they dance and turn, the background leaves also spin and twirl as the camera moves forward. The background leaves all clear away as the two dancing leaves continue to dance. The background changes to an orange colored, autumn forest with tall trees and rocks, as well as a dirt floor. The camera continues moving forward.

From 01:18 - 01:28 - The dancing leaves fade and slowly turn into two dancing human figures. One is a male with dark hair, pants, a sweater vest and long sleeved shirt. The other is a female with long black hair and a blue dress. The dancing couple spins and twirl toward the camera and dance out of view of the camera.

From 01:29 - 01:45 - A butterfly flies into the scene from the right side of the screen and, as the camera follows the butterfly, the background fades and changes to autumn colors. A tree branch appears from the bottom of the scene as the camera moves backward. The butterfly flies toward the camera and the camera continues to move back. As it does, more of the tree branch is revealed. When the branch is fully in view of the camera, two leaves can be seen on the branch. One is lighter and the other is darker. They notice the butterfly. The lighter leaf is fascinated and the darker leaf appears scared. The lighter leaf tries to take off to follow the butterfly but the darker leaf panics and holds it back. The lighter leaf pulls until the dark leaf can’t hold on any longer and it snaps off of the branch. The lighter leaf then soars into the air and the camera follows it. The light leaf dances in circles and floats with the butterfly until they both fly to the left and out of view.

From 01:46 - 01:56 - The scene changes to a new scene, which is viewed from just above the leaf still remaining on the tree branch. The leaf is watching the other leaf flying away and falling further and further downward as it spins and floats with the butterfly. The leaf on the tree reaches for its falling friend but can only watch as it disappears from view. The leaf on the branch becomes frightened in its solitude and huddles down in fear.

From 01:57 - 02:00 - The leaf is frozen in fear as the autumn sky begins to shift to winter and cold icy winds blow through the scene.

From 02:01 - 02:11 - The scene changes to an aerial view of a frozen lake as the camera slowly moves in. Two ice skaters appear from opposite sides of the screen. They are the same characters that appeared as dancers in the autumn forest. They skate toward each other and join hands before spinning together out of the scene.

From 02:12 - 02:21 - The scene changes to a close up view of the frozen lake as the feet and dress of the female ice skater come into view. Her feet are seen close up as they skate toward the camera, doing a full spinning turn before skating out of view. After the female skater is gone, the feet of the male skater appear at the top of the screen as he skates toward the camera very quickly. As the feet of the male skater approach the camera, he leans and tips the skates to come to a quick stop and causes shredding of the ice to fly toward the camera, whiting out the view.

From 02:22 - 02:30 - The white screen fades into a winter scene where snow if falling all around a tree branch. The tree branch is covered with snow and there is the single leaf still clinging to the branch. The camera slowly moves forward.

From 02:31 - 02:40 - The scene changes to a close up view of the leaf on the branch. The leaf is now covered in ice crystals and shaking with the cold. As it gets more and more frozen, the leaf begins to crystalize more as snow builds up on the branch. Long icicles begin to form on the branch below.

From 02:41 - 02:52 - The scene changes to a different view of the branch, now seen from just above the leaf. The leaf is surprised to see a shape that appears, at first, to look like its other leaf friend has returned. As the shape moves, it is revealed to be a bushy tailed squirrel that climbs up and around to face the leaf. The squirrel touches its nose to the leaf in a comforting and reassuring way. It gives the leaf courage to finally let go and fly away from the branch. The squirrel also spins around and runs out of view.

From 02:53 - 02:59- The scene changes to a close up of the leaf from above as it is flying and spinning through the winter sky. The leaf spins and floats down, twirling and stretching out its limbs in a joyful and free expression. The leaf is happy at last as it floats down and down until it is finally out of view of the camera.

From 03:00 - 03:09 - The scene changes to a front facing view of a fox coming toward the camera in a snowy landscape. The fox is staring at something as it moves forward. The leaf floats into view from the top as it drifts toward the ground. This is what the fox was staring at. The fox continues to approach the leaf, moving closer to the camera. The leaf reaches the ground and the fox comes up to sniff it. The fox looks right at the camera and blinks.

From 03:10 - 03:49 - The scene fades into a wider angle view of the forest and lake. The snow is now starting to melt and the ground is beginning to show through.

The credits begin to appear as a sprout slowly grows out of the ground where the leaf had reached the end of its journey, representing the cycles of life beginning again.

The credits will be listed as they appear below:

At 03:14 - the first text credits appear. The text reads: “Animated Film by Chelsea Keene”

At 3:19 - the next credits appear. The text reads: “Music - Original Film Score by Chelsea Keene. Original Credit Score by Daniel Checchi”

At 3:23 - the next credits appear. The text reads: “Orchestral Strings Arrangement by Matthew Lindgren”

At 3:27 - the next credits appear. The text reads: “Guitar Arrangement by Daniel Checchi”

At 3:32 - the next credits appear. The text reads: “Piano - Chelsea Keene. Guitar - Daniel Checchi”

At 3:36 - the next credits appear. The text reads: “Sound Mixing and Editing by Chelsea Keene and Matthew Lindgren”

At 3:40 - the next credits appear. The text reads: “Special Thanks” “Suzy Keene, Concetta Verna, Ruth Daughters, Matthew Lindgren, Daniel Checchi, Shimbe, Soyeon Kim, Aubry Mintz, Kim Dwinell, Tom Decker, Walter Santucci, Robin Richesson, Everett Peck, Ivaylo Angelov, Neena Chawla, Ron Olson”

At 03:47 - the next credits appear. The text reads: “Produced at California State University, Long Beach Animation 2019”

At 03:50 - the scene fades to black, leaving only the small growing sprout in view.

From 03:58 - 04:00 - the scene fades fully to black and the film ends at 04:10